

Docket No: PRZYTULLA-20
RCE of Appl. No. 09/867,581

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted preliminary to the issuance of an Office Action in the present application and in response to the Official Action of July 19, 2004.

Record is also made of an interview between applicant's representative and the Examiner which took place on October 28, 2004. The Examiner is thanked for his help and assistance as well as for the courtesies extended to Counsel at that time. During the course of the interview, the present application was extensively discussed in light of the final rejection of claims 1, 4, 6-13, 15, 17, 18, 29, 34-36, 38-41, 43-45. More specifically, applicant's representative submitted to the Examiner informally an amended claim 1 in which the nature of the indentation in the drum was more clearly expressed in order to differentiate over the prior art. During the interview, the Examiner pointed out that if the claim were amended so as to express that the height of the indentation in relation to the longitudinal axis was greater than the height of the indentation at a midline of the side wall section, the claim would be more clear and would differentiate over the prior art. This was also set forth by the Examiner in the Interview Summary, a copy of which is enclosed herewith.

Applicant also submits herewith a replacement drawing sheet showing a Figure 4a and 4b in their entirety and thus clarifies the structure of the drum. The specification was also amended to add description to Figure 4b.

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The filing of an RCE was again discussed with the Examiner on January 19, 2005 prior to filing this preliminary amendment.

The Examiner agreed that the subject matter of amended claim 1 in the form as agreed would be distinguishable over the prior art of record; however, an updated search is needed to make a final determination about patentability.

As a result of the interview, applicant now submits amendments to claims 1, 7, 19, 34, 39, and 44 which are drawn up in accordance with the agreement at the interview so as to overcome each and every objection or rejection to the claims as set forth in the Examiner's Official Action of July 19, 2004. Claims 10-18, 20-21 23, 24, 29, 30 32, 37, 38, 40-42 and 45 are cancelled.

In order to make the specification as clear as possible on this point, applicant has also amended the specification with respect to the revised drawings.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is considered patentably differentiated over the prior art of record and believed to be in immediate conditions for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are thus respectfully requested.

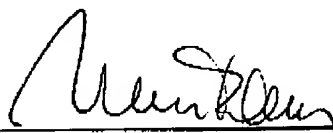
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

Should the Examiner consider necessary or desirable any formal changes anywhere in the specification, claims and/or drawing, then it is respectfully requested that such changes be made by Examiner's Amendment, if the Examiner feels this would facilitate passage of the case to issuance. If the

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Examiner feels that it might be helpful in advancing this case by calling the undersigned, applicant would greatly appreciate such a telephone interview.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS WITHOUT MARKINGS

Replace Figure 4 with new Figures 4A and 4B as presented.